

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method for ~~collecting~~ selecting a medical product information for development, comprising:

providing a web site having information about medical products;

accepting on said web site a plurality of submissions indicative of [[a]] medical needs not addressed by available medical products relating to the medical products from a plurality of users;

categorizing the plurality of submissions indicative of the medical needs not addressed by available medical products according to at least one [[a]] primary topic; and
analyzing said plurality of submissions to select ~~selecting~~ the submission indicative of the medical need not addressed by available medical products for development of a new medical product related to the selected medical need not addressed by available medical products where the submitted medical need not addressed by available medical products matches a predetermined number of other submissions having the same primary topic.

2. (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein the categorization is done performed by each said plurality of users electronically selecting a category.

3. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein the selecting of the medical need not addressed by available medical products for development of a medical product related to the selected [[unmet need]] medical need not addressed by available medical products comprises filtering the [[unmet need]] medical need not addressed by available medical products submissions.

4. (Original) The computer implemented method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

providing a gatekeeper such that the gatekeeper filters out input that relates to product complaints.

5. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

providing a gatekeeper such that the gatekeeper filters out input that describes [[an]] the medical need not addressed by available medical products and a solution to the medical need not addressed by available medical products.

6. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method as recited in claim 5 wherein an invention submission disclosure form is transmitted to the user that submitted the medical need not addressed by available medical products and the solution to the medical need not addressed by available medical products.

7. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

providing a computer implemented medical products information web site in conjunction with the ~~unmet needs~~ medical needs not addressed by available medical products input such that users can input medical ~~need~~ needs not addressed by available medical products while obtaining medical products information.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) An apparatus for collecting medical product information, comprising:

a computer hosting a web site wherein the web site stores information about medical products, information about the medical products being electronically searchable and browseable;

a network connection whereby web pages are delivered to a remote computer and input is accepted from the remote computer, the network accepting a plurality of [[an]] electronic submissions indicative of a medical need not addressed by available medical products for the medical products whereby medical needs not addressed by available medical products related to the medical products may be determined for the development of a new medical product related to the medical need not addressed by available medical products.

10. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 9 further comprising a medical products purchasing database whereby a user can purchase medical products in conjunction with the submission of a[[n]] medical need not addressed by available medical products submission.

11. (Withdrawn) A method of improving the operation of medical products, comprising:

retrieving a web page from a medical products server, the web page having input fields including a description field wherein an unmet need may be described, a category field whereby the medical condition to which the product need may be associated; and a submitter identification field whereby the identity of the submitter may be entered;

inputting the unmet need in the description field; and

transmitting the web page contents to a server whereby the contents may be categorized.

12. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising entering account information before retrieving the web page.

13. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising retrieving a web page comprising medical product information.

14. (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium bearing computer readable instructions for carrying out the steps recited in claim 11.

15. (Previously presented) A system for collecting medical need information not addressed by available medical products, comprising:

a processor executing instructions ~~processing means~~ for providing a web site having information about medical products;

means for accepting on said web site a plurality of submissions indicative of [[a]] medical needs not addressed by available medical products relating to the medical products from a plurality of users;

means for categorizing and analyzing the plurality of submissions indicative of [[a]] medical needs not addressed by available medical products according to a primary topic

whereby a submitted medical need not addressed by available medical products for development of a new medical product related to the categorized submission may be identified where the submitted medical need not addressed by available medical products matches a predetermined number of other submissions having the same primary topic.

16. (Original) The system as recited in claim 15 wherein the categorization is done performed by each said plurality of users electronically selecting a category.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 15 further comprising: providing a gatekeeper such that the gatekeeper filters out input that relates to product complaints.

19. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claims 15 further comprising: providing a gatekeeper such that the gatekeeper filters out input that describes an medical need not addressed by available medical products and a solution to the medical need not addressed by available medical products.

20. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19 wherein an invention submission disclosure form is transmitted to the user that submitted the medical need not addressed by available medical products and the solution to the medical need not addressed by available medical products.

21. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 15 further comprising: providing a computer implemented medical products purchasing web site in conjunction with the medical need not addressed by available medical products input such that users can input medical need not addressed by available medical products during a medical products ordering process.